

DEC 11 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Coolman

Application No.: 10/747,929

Filed: 12/30/2003

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
ORDERING FROM MULTIPLE
VENDORS

Examiner: Misiaszek, Michael

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3625

APPEAL BRIEFMail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Brief is presented in support of the Notice of Appeal from the final rejection of Claims 1-20 of the above-identified application, as set forth in the Final Office Action.

REAL PARTY OF INTEREST

The Real Party of Interest is Electronic-Co, Inc. dba Networld Exchange.

RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals or interferences for the above-referenced patent application.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-20 are pending and are the subject of this Appeal. All claims have been rejected. Claims 1-20 are the subject of this appeal. No other claims are pending.

STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

All claims as renumbered were rejected in a Final Office Action. A Notice of Appeal was filed requesting a Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review. The application remains under appeal.

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****DEC 11 2006****SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER**

The claimed subject matter relates to systems and methods to support an electronic market place include a communication network to communicate purchase requests; one or more buyers coupled to the network to issue a purchase order specifying items from two or more suppliers; and a server coupled to the network to receive the purchase order, the server generating sub-orders from the purchase order and sending the sub-orders to the two or more suppliers for fulfillment (Page 3, lines 2-7).

Claim 1 recites a system to support an electronic market place with a communication network to communicate purchase requests; one or more buyers coupled to the network to issue a purchase order specifying items from two or more suppliers; and a server coupled to the network to receive the purchase order, the server accessing a Central Contract Registry (CCR) for supplier data and generating sub-orders from the purchase order and sending the sub-orders to the two or more suppliers for fulfillment and paying the suppliers based on CCR data.(embodiments are described in Figs. 1A-1B, Figs. 4-5, page 5, line 5- page 9, line 2,page 13, line 16-page 15 line 15).

Claim 2 recites means for receiving an acceptance from a vendor; means for accessing data from a CCR Database to retrieve vendor payment data; and means for paying the vendor using the CCR database (embodiments are described in Figs. 4-9, page 5, line 5- page 9, line 2, page 13 line 16-page 17 line 15).

Claim 3 recites a means for keeping a local copy of the CCR database in a system database. (embodiments are described on page 20, lines 14-15).

Claim 4 recites means for importing the CCR data into a public data storage and a private data storage (embodiments are described in Fig. 6, page 5, line 5- page 9, line 2, page 15, lines 9-16).

Claim 5 recites that the importing means further comprises means for transferring data over a secure protocol (embodiments are described on page 14, lines 11-15).

Claim 6 recites means for using the CCR data to Register Vendors, Search and Select Vendors for solicitation of services and/or delivery of supplies; View Vendor Profile; Search Vendor Profile; or Electronically Transfer Funds for outstanding account payable (embodiments are described in Figs. 6-9, page 5, line 5- page 9, line 2, page 15, line 15-page 17, line 20).

Claim 7 recites that the vendor registration further comprises means for validating the vendor's DUNS/CAGE data and contact data in the CCR (embodiments are described in Figs. 6-8, page 15, line 15-page 16, line 19).